## Amendments to the Claims

1. A method for a system including a plurality of encoders each for receiving a first signal and encoding to generate a respective second signal for sending to a respective subscriber, the method comprising:

receiving, in each encoder, the first signal from a first source, while testing a signal path between the second source and the encoders; and

subsequently a second receiving step of receiving the first signal from a second source.

- 2. Canceled.
- 3. Canceled.
- 4. Canceled.
- 5. Canceled.
- 6. Canceled.
- 7. Canceled.
- 8. Canceled.
- 9. Canceled.
- 10. Canceled.
- 11. Canceled.
- 12. Canceled.
- 13. Canceled.
- 14. Canceled.
- 15. Canceled.
- 16. Canceled.
- 17. Canceled.
- 18. Canceled.
- 19. Canceled.
- 20. Canceled.
- 21. Canceled.
- 22. Canceled.

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- 23. Canceled.
- 24. Canceled.
- 25. Canceled.
- 26. Canceled.
- 27. Canceled.